



March 24, 2016

Mr. Tom Torlakson
State Superintendent of Public Instruction
1430 N Street, Suite 5602
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dr. Thomas Adams
Executive Director
Instructional Quality Commission
California Department of Education
1430 N Street, Room 3207
Sacramento, CA 95814

Mr. Bill Honig
Chair of History Social Sciences Committee
Instructional Quality Commission
California Department of Education
1430 N Street, Room 3207
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support for Recommendations of Bataan Legacy Historical Society on History Social Sciences Curriculum Framework

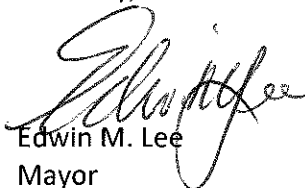
Dear Superintendent Torlakson, Dr. Adams, and Mr. Honig:

I write in support of the Bataan Legacy Historical Society's recommendations to the history-social sciences curriculum framework for students in Grades 10 and 11.

It has been over 70 years since the Philippines and its people were called upon to fight in World War II. The Filipino and American soldiers of the U.S. Army Forces in the Far East (USAFPE) were able to disrupt the timetable of the Imperial Japanese Army and provide defense to the Bataan peninsula. After the conditional release of majority of the Filipino soldiers, they joined the movements that laid the foundation for the eventual liberation by the Allied Forces. By the end of the war, one million civilians had perished in the Philippines, and its capital, Manila, was ravaged. Despite their great sacrifice, the Filipino soldiers who served equally with their American brothers were denied their veterans' rights and benefits after the passage of the First and Second Rescission Acts in 1946. To this date, these rights have not been fully-restored.

With San Francisco's large population of children and families of Filipino descent, and as the first Asian American Mayor of San Francisco, I believe that preserving the Filipino history is essential to the cultural vitality of our diverse City. I urge you to fully implement AB 199 so that our public school curriculum accurately portrays the sacrifices of the Filipino and American soldiers and an entire nation during World War II.

Sincerely,


Edwin M. Lee
Mayor